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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/682,927	11/01/2001	Joseph Morris	210166US67	3502

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EXAMINER

ENG, GEORGE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2643

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/682,927

Applicant(s)

MORRIS, JOSEPH

Examiner

George Eng

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 November 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/29/2004 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. This Office action is in response to the amendment filed 9/29/2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Regarding claims 1 and 7, the subject matter of a second number accessible via the first and second telephone interfaces such that the call processor directs the outgoing call to the second telephone line interfaces using the second number when the first number is determined to match the stored telephone number is not described in the specification. Note the specification merely describes a call processor providing local called number translation to translate an entry 800 number, i.e., a first number, to a non-800 number, i.e., a second number, when the first number is determined to match with one of a plurality of stored numbers stored in a database, so that the call processor uses the second number to direct an outgoing call to a second telephone line interface, and the call processing uses the second number sent back from a remote call handler to direct the outgoing call to POTS interface when a connection request cannot handle by the second telephone line interface ([0016] through [0017]). Thus, the specification fails to describe the second number accessible via the first and second telephone line interfaces.

Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are also rejected because of depending on claims 1 and 7, respectively, containing the same deficiency.

Drawings

5. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the processor further comprises a telephone number converter for converting a first number, accessible by the first telephone line interface but not accessible via the second telephone line interface, to a second number, **accessible via the first and second telephone line interfaces**, when the first number is determined to match the stored telephone number, such that **the call processor directs the**

Art Unit: 2643

outgoing call to the second telephone line interface using the second number when the first number is determined to match the stored telephone number must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

6. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al. (US PAT. 6,141,341 hereinafter Jones) in view of Hakim et al. (US PAT. 6,614,780 hereinafter Hakim) and Sosnowski (US PAT. 5,754,640).

Regarding claim 1, Jones discloses an Internet Protocol telephone system for routing a call between a first telephone line interface (18, figure 2) and a second telephone line interface

Art Unit: 2643

(14, figure 2) depending on an entered number (col. 2 lines 17-31), the system comprising a telephone digit detector (52, figure 5) for detecting and buffering a series of digits received from a telephone line connector (col. 3 lines 27-29 and col. 9 lines 22-28), a call processor (32, figure 4) for determining if the buffered series of digits matches a stored telephone number (col. 3 lines 29-30) and a telephone line switch (10) for directing an outgoing call to the first telephone interface, i.e., a POTS mode, and to the second telephone line interface, i.e., a VoIP mode, based on an output of the caller processor (col. 3 lines 30-34 and col. 9 lines 40-61). Jones differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the call processor comprising a telephone number converter for converting the buffered series of digits from a first number, accessible by the first telephone line interface but not accessible by via the second telephone line interface, to a second number accessible via second telephone line interface when the first number is determined to match the stored number such that the call processor directs the outgoing call to the second telephone line interface using the second number. However, Hakim teaches a system for routing a dialed telephone number comprising a microprocessor (704, figure 7), wherein the microprocessor comprising means for converting from a first number, i.e., toll free number which is accessible by a PSTN interface, i.e., a first telephone line interface, to a second number accessible by local service provider or Internet service provider, i.e., a second telephone line interface, so that the microprocessor directs the outgoing call to the second telephone line interface using the second number (col. 6 line 30 through col. 8 line 59), thereby enabling minimal charge to the call. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Jones in having the call processor comprising a telephone number converter for converting the buffered series of digits from a first

Art Unit: 2643

number, accessible by the first telephone line interface but not accessible by via the second telephone line interface, to a second number accessible via second telephone line interface when the first number is determined to match the stored number such that the call processor directs the outgoing call to the second telephone line interface using the second number, as per teaching of Hakim, in order to enable minimal charge to the call. Furthermore, neither Jones nor Hakim specifically teaches the second number accessible by the first and second telephone line interfaces. However, Sosnowski teaches a technique to convert a destination telephone number, i.e., a first number accessible by a standard switching network, to an access number, i.e., a second number accessible by selective telephone network through a central switching office, when the destination number is determined to match a stored telephone number and to route a call to the selective network using the access number when the destination number is determined to match the stored telephone number (col. 6 lines 10-26), thereby qualifying telephone numbers for a telephone network. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Jones and Hakim in having the second number accessible by the first and second telephone line interfaces, as per teaching of Sosnowski, in order to qualify telephone numbers for a telephone network.

Regarding claims 2-5, Hakim teaches the stored telephone number comprising a toll-free number or an information number, wherein the toll-free number or the information number includes an 800 number (col. 1 lines 38-49).

Regarding claim 6, Jones discloses the second telephone line interface (14, figure 2) comprising a Voice-over-IP interface (col. 2 lines 17-25 and col. 9 lines 40-46).

Art Unit: 2643

Regarding claim 7, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 1.

Regarding claims 8-11, the limitations of the claims are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claims 2-5.

Regarding claim 12, the limitations of the claim are rejected as the same reasons set forth in claim 6.

7. Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al. (US PAT. 6,141,341 hereinafter Jones) in view of Hakim et al. (US PAT. 6,614,780 hereinafter Hakim).

Regarding claim 13, Jones discloses an Internet Protocol telephone system for routing a call between a first telephone line interface (18, figure 2) and a second telephone line interface (14, figure 2) depending on an entered number (col. 2 lines 17-31), the system comprising a telephone digit detector (52, figure 5) for detecting and buffering a series of digits received from a telephone line connector (col. 3 lines 27-29 and col. 9 lines 22-28), a call processor (32, figure 4) for determining if the buffered series of digits matches a stored telephone number (col. 3 lines 29-30) and a telephone line switch (10) for directing an outgoing call to the first telephone interface, i.e., a POTS mode, and to the second telephone line interface, i.e., a VoIP mode, based on an output of the caller processor (col. 3 lines 30-34 and col. 9 lines 40-61). Jones differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching a telephone number converter to convert the stored national number to a regional number based on user's location when the buffered series of digits match the stored national number, and the telephone line switch for routing a call to the

Art Unit: 2643

second telephone line interface other than the public switch telephone network interface when the buffered series of digits matches the stored national numbers. However, Hakim teaches a system for routing a dialed telephone number comprising a microprocessor (704, figure 7), wherein the microprocessor comprising means for converting from a toll free number, i.e., a national number, which is accessible by a PSTN interface to a regional number when the buffered series of digits matches the stored national number, so that a call is routed to the second telephone line interface using the second number (col. 6 line 30 through col. 8 line 59), thereby enabling minimal charge to the call. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Jones in having the telephone number converter to convert the stored national number to a regional number based on user's location when the buffered series of digits match the stored national number, and the telephone line switch for routing a call to the second telephone line interface other than the public switch telephone network interface when the buffered series of digits matches the stored national numbers, as per teaching of Hakim, in order to enable minimal charge to the call.

Regarding claim 14, Hakim teaches the stored telephone number comprising a toll-free number or an information number, wherein the toll-free number or the information number includes an 800 number (col. 1 lines 38-49).

Regarding claims 15-16, Jones discloses the second telephone line interface (14, figure 2) comprising a Voice-over-IP interface (col. 2 lines 17-25 and col. 9 lines 40-46).

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

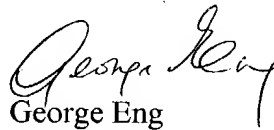
9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. White et al. (US PAT. 6,069,089) discloses an Internet telephone service utilizing program controlled switching system permitting a caller to set-up and carry out a telephone call over the Internet from telephone station to telephone station without access to a computer (abstract). Archer (US PAT 6,683,870) discloses a method for multicasting call notification (abstract). Stevens et al. (US PAT. 6,778,656) discloses a method for establishing at least one new dialing plan utilizing the traditional international dialing plan (abstract).

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Eng whose telephone number is 703-308-9555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri 7:30 AM-6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A. Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2643

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



George Eng
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2643